# Nine Candidates GiveViews on Environment

## *Ecology Center Questionnaire Answered*

LITTLE ROCK (AP) — Nine of the 13 candidates for governor have responded to a questionnaire from the Arkansas Ecology Center, giving their views on environmental questions.

Those responding were Republicans Lester Gibbs, Winthrop Rockefeller and R. J. Hampton, and Democrats Dale Bumpers, Orval Faubus, James Malone Jr., Hayes McClerkin, Joe Purcell and Bill Wells. The center said Democrat Bob Compton visited the center but did not submit written answers.

They were asked whether the state Pollution Control Commission was doing an adequate job coping with the state's pollution problems and, if not, what would the candidate do to help.

Gibbs said the agency was understaffed. Hampton said he would propose legislation to remove loopholes in existing laws and to "put teeth" into existing law. Hampton also said the maximum fine of $250 a day was "hardly just punishment." Rockefeller said he believed the agency was doing an excellent job considering its limited financing and staff. Rockefeller said if it became apparent that existing penalties were not stiff enough, he would favor raising penalties "until they do the job."

Bumpers said the agency was doing as adequate job as possible with the means available. He said laws were not strong enough and that he would propose strict fines and punishment for violation of air and water standards.

Faubus said the commission was doing a good job. Malone said the agency had not felt the "full lash of vested interests from those industries who will resist pollution control for financial reasons." He said the governor's office would resist these pressures. McClerkin proposed a study on the government's role in pollution.

Purcell said the agency was doing an admirable job but that the commission was understaffed. Wells said there was room for improvement in the agency.

The candidates also were asked if they thought the solution of waste disposal should be left to individual cities and towns or has the problem grown so large that municipalities need to work together to dispose of recycle waste.

Gibbs said yes. Rockefeller said it was essential that municipalities and state and federal agencies combine their efforts to control and dispose of waste.

Bumpers said cooperation is a necessity and that he believed the state would have to take some sort of lead in encouraging such efforts. Faubus said passage of a statewide solid waste law could be very beneficial in bringing the problem under control.

Malone said the question was ambiguous. McClerkin said he believed cities should join an a unified effort for the disposal and recycling of waste products.

Purcell said cooperation between cities to undertake multicity waste disposal is authorized under existing law, and "it is an entirely proper function of state government to aid our cities in achieving the most efficient and ecopomical manner of waste disposal."

Wells said there was a need for cooperation.

The candidates also were asked what they thought was Arkansas' most pressing environmental problem and how they proposed to face it.

Gibbs said industry Hampton said "we must guard this state's beauty, resources and wildlife jealously." Rockefeller said the most pressing problem was finding the proper balance between the "often conflicting goals of conservation and economic development." He said part of the solution lies in strict enforcement of all existing antipollution, resource-use and public health regulations. Another part of the solution, Rockefeller said, lies in carefully zoning areas for the use intended.

Bumpers said the most pressing problem was pollution and spoilage of rivers, streams, waterways and lakes. He said he would combat the problem by asking the legislature to pass strict laws with strong fines and penalities.

Faubus said the most pressing problem is to provide proper controls for keeping pace with new sources of pollution and at the same time working to correct existing pollution.

Malone said the most pressing problem was water pollution and that he would use initiative in facing the problem. McClerkin said water pollution. Purcell said the most pressing problem stemmed from "creeping pollution." He said the problem must be attacked by reinforcing planning activities and through education.

Wells said he would attack the problem of pollution by "creating a balance on the Pollution Control Commission."

All, except Hampton who did not answer, generally agreed it was the state's responsibility to protect the workers in a factory from dangerous industrial emissions.

To the question of whether state agencies such as the Game and Fish Commission and the state Planning Commission should have the final authority over proposed federal watershed projects in the state, Gibbs, Bumpers, Malone and Wells all said no.

Hampton proposed a "clearinghouse" approach. Rockefeller said the governor's office currently has authority to disapprove any federal watershed project that would not be in the state's interest.

Faubus said decisions on establishment of proposed federal watershed projects should be based on the study and findings of all interested groups and agencies.

McClerkin said there is an apparent need for more study. Purcell said watershed decisions require a coordinated effort.

The candidates also were asked if they thought it was in the state's best interest if plans were implemented by the Soil Conservation Service to turn almost all bayous and streams into drainage ditches.

Bumpers and Wells said no. Gibbs said yes. Rockefeller said there must be constant re-evaluation to insure that only those programs are undertaken that are deemed necessary and worthwhile.

Faubus said all recognize the need for good flood and erosion control, but he said some areas should be left for beauty. Malone said that those streams that flow through nonproductive and scenic lands should not be ditched, but those that flow through productive land and periodically flood and destroy crops and property and endanger health and life should be ditched.

McClerkin said he is generally opposed to widespread "channelization" of stream. Purcell said decisions on such streams should be made by qualified persons who can evaluate the total impact of such massive alterations.

The candidates also were asked if they thought someone from the state Parks, Travel and Recreation Commission should be included on the Arkansas Industrial Development Commission to represent the state's tourist interests when decisions are being made concerning the locations and types of proposed industries.

Wells, Bumpers and Gibbs said yes. Rockefeller said he believed there should be the fullest possible interagency cooperation in matters affecting the environment. He said he was interested in establishing a state environmental council to help in this regard.

Faubus said all public interests should be consulted. Malone said he was not opposed to the idea but believed they should function only in an advisory capacity. McClerkin said he would not hesitate to take any action available to him to protect an infringement on the right of future generations to clean air, water and pleasant surroundings.

Purcell said the AIDC should have an input not only from the parks commission but also from any state agencie involved in environmental planning and protection. Wells also said the Pollution commission should work with the AIDC closely.

The candidates also were asked if they thought a program of environmental education should be incorporated into the public school system.

Gibbs and Bumpers said yes. Malone said he would favor this if and when a body of "hard, nonemotional knowledge is available to present to the young people of this state."

Wells said he thought the idea feasible on an elective basis.

FORMER U. S. SENATE CHAPLIN DIES — The Rev. Dr. Frederick Brown Harris died in Washington Tuesday at the age of 87. Dr. Harris served a record 24 years as chaplin of the U. S. Senate. (AP Wirephoto)

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AT WASHINGTON MEET

# Moses Says Board Members 'Scolded' by HEW Officials

By LARRY POWELL
Staff Writer

Representatives of the Texarkana, Tex., school board were "more or less scolded" for traveling to Washington, D.C. to meet with representatives of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, according to board member Glen Moses.

Board President A.T. Hays echoes Moses' thoughts on the meeting, "We didn't receive any smiles..."

Moses, Hay, J.C. Crownover, Dr. J.B. Rochelle and School Supt. Jim Covert reflect on their Aug. 7 visit to Washington in about the same manner. All are displeased with the treatment they received from the federal officials they met with the exception of Stan Pottinger, Director of the Office of Civil Rights, the number two man in HEW.

"Mr. Pottinger was real nice," Moses said, "but as far as I was concerned the rest of them could have jumped out the window.

"When Pottinger came in the room, boy, they all really played fruit basket turnover. They knew who was the boss."

Hay said the board representatives asked Walter S. Warfield of the Office of Civil Rights if they could have copies of the minutes of the meeting. "We didn't receive any smiles or the minutes or anything else," Hay said.

Moses said the representatives were told "by a lawyer that we couldn't have the minutes. He told us it had never been done before."

"One of these men," Moses said, "told us he was not interested in education, he was only interested in integration."

The committee had gone to Washington, bypassing already tried HEW Regional representatives in Dallas, to (1) attempt to keep Sunset School as a neighborhood school in light of recent statements made by President Nixon; (2) to check into the possibilities of Texarkana, Tex., Independent School District being reinstated in the Title VIII Dropout Prevention Program; and (3) to ask about the possibilty of funds being made available to the district for construction and renovation of buildings to alleviate problems of overcrowded classrooms caused by total integration.

The representatives found that (1) Sunset School must be either paired or closed down; (2) that the school district may receive funds for the dropout program for the 1971-72 school year; and that (3) funds for assisting in desegregation would be made available through state education agencies.

Among federal officials at the meeting were several from Dallas including Mrs. Dorothy Stuck and John Bell.

"These Dallas people," Moses said, "were apparently flown in for our meeting. We were more or less scolded for being up there in the first place. He (Warfield) didn't have enough time to fool with us, it seemed like to me."

Moses said Pottinger was asked to send a report on the meeting to HEW Secretary Elliott Richardson.

Board representative were told by Pottinger, as they had been in a letter from Office of Civil Rights Branch Chief Lloyd R. Henderson several months ago, that under current law Sunset School cannot be considered a de facto segregated school since it has been a segregated school since its inception.

Pottinger said that from the vantage point of HEW and the Justice Department Sunset must either be paired or closed.

In meeting with Lew Walker, a Dropout Prevention Program official, board members found that passage of the controversial education bill made available additional funds for the project. Walker said every consideration would be given to the Texas School District since the district had originally been approved in the program. The program was denied the district in the first year since the school district was determined to be out of compliance with HEW guidelines.

Walker said the district could receive $250,000 for the next three years if approved. He told the board members he plans to be in Texarkana in September to talk with officials of the Texas, Arkansas, and Liberty-Eylau School Districts.

Funding for desegregation problems, according to Jerry Braden, Director of the Equal Educational Opportunities Division of the Office of Education, will make available to states to assist in correcting problems of overcrowded classrooms. He said the funds would be available through state education agencies and that meetings would be set up on a regional basis to explain the procedure to follow in order to qualify for the funds.

## Honor Student

Mrs. June Hendrix Mishler, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hendrix, of Rt. 7, Texarkana, Ark., was listed on the spring semester honor roll at Evangel College in Springfield, Mo.

A junior history major, Mrs. Mishler, is a graduate of Fouke High School, and maintained a 3.43 grade point average.

She resides in Springfield, Mo.

## *Accountants Attend Kilgore CPA Meeting*

Three certified public accountants from Texarkana attended a meeting of the East Texas Chapter of the Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants in Kilgore, Tex., Tuesday.

Lawrence Markham, Ed Thomas and Pat Thomas, all of Texarkana, were among 100 east Texans who attended the meeting highlighted by an address by William H. Quasky, Executive Director of the Texas Society of C.P.A.'s.

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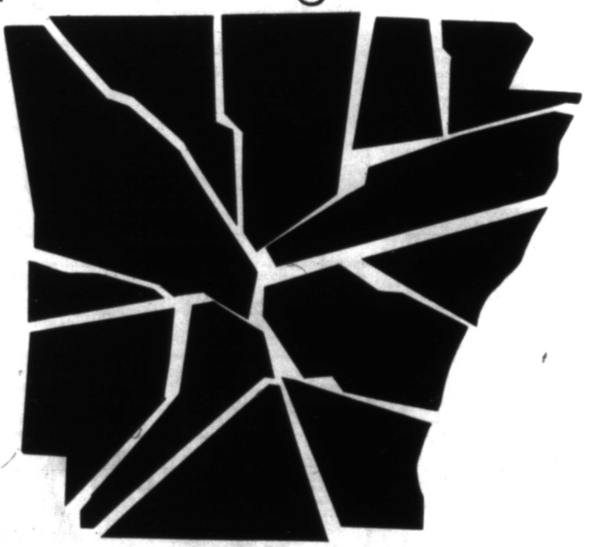

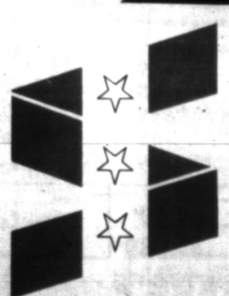

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